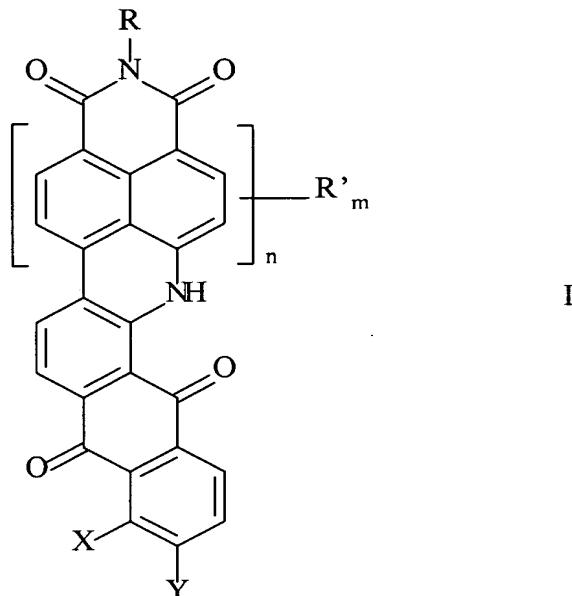


IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Original): A rylene dye of the general formula I



where the variables are defined as follows:

R is hydrogen;

$C_1-C_{30}$ -alkyl whose carbon chain may be interrupted by one or more -O-, -S-, -NR<sup>1</sup>-, -CO- and/or -SO<sub>2</sub>- moieties and may be mono- or polysubstituted by carboxyl, sulfo, hydroxyl, cyano,  $C_1-C_6$ -alkoxy and/or a 5- to 7-membered heterocyclic radical which is bonded via a nitrogen atom and may contain further heteroatoms and be aromatic;

$C_5$ - $C_8$ -cycloalkyl whose carbon framework may be interrupted by one or more -O-, -S- and/or -NR<sup>1</sup>- moieties and may be mono- or polysubstituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl;

aryl or hetaryl which may each be mono- or polysubstituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy, halogen, hydroxyl, cyano, carboxyl, -CONHR<sup>2</sup>, -NHCOR<sup>2</sup> and/or aryl- or hetarylazo, each of which may be substituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy, halogen, hydroxyl, cyano and/or carboxyl; R' is bromine; cyano; -NR<sup>3</sup><sub>2</sub>;

aryloxy, arylthio, hetaryloxy or hetarylthio, each of which may be mono- or polysubstituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkoxy, cyano, -CONHR<sup>2</sup> and/or -NHCOR<sup>2</sup>;

C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>-alk-1-ynyl whose carbon chain may be interrupted by one or more -O-, -S-, -NR<sup>1</sup>-, -CO- and/or -SO<sub>2</sub>- moieties and may be mono- or polysubstituted by -COOR<sup>1</sup>, -SO<sub>3</sub>R<sup>1</sup>, hydroxyl, cyano, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkyl, aryl and/or a 5- to 7-membered heterocyclic radical which is bonded via a nitrogen atom and may contain further heteroatoms and be aromatic;

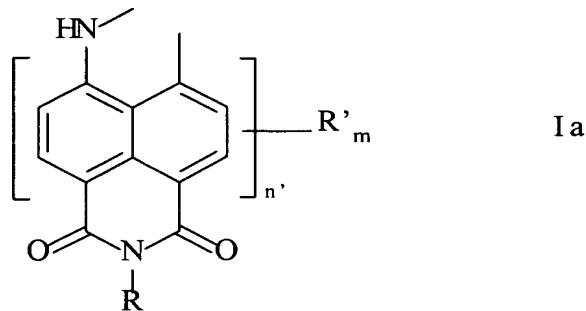
R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl;

R<sup>2</sup> is hydrogen; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>-alkyl; aryl or hetaryl, each of which may be substituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy, halogen, hydroxyl and/or cyano;

R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>-alkyl; aryl or hetaryl, each of which may be substituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy, halogen, hydroxyl and/or cyano; both R<sup>3</sup> radicals may be joined to give a 5- to 7-membered heterocyclic radical which contains the nitrogen atom and

is bonded via it;

X, Y are both hydrogen or bonded together to form a six-membered ring in a radical of the formula Ia



where X is the -NH- group and Y is the other free chemical bond;

n is 2, 3, 4 or additionally 1 when X and Y are a radical of the formula Ia;

n' is from 1 to 4;

m is from 0 to 6.

Claim 2 (Original): A rylene dye of the formula I as claimed in claim 1, where the variables are defined as follows:

R is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>30</sub>-alkyl whose carbon chain may be interrupted by one or more -O-, -S-, -NR<sup>1</sup>-, -CO- and/or -SO<sub>2</sub>- moieties and may be mono- or polysubstituted by hydroxyl, cyano, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy and/or a 5- to 7-membered heterocyclic radical which is bonded via a nitrogen atom and may contain further heteroatoms and be

aromatic;

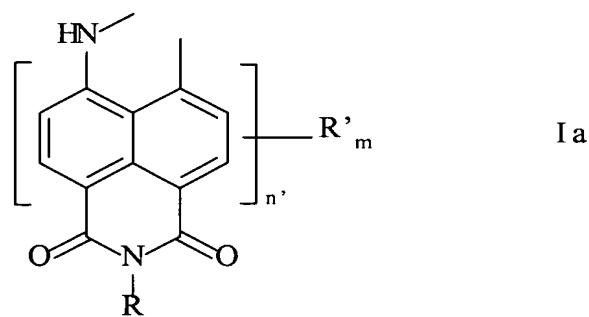
aryl or hetaryl which may each be mono- or polysubstituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy, hydroxyl, cyano, -CONHR<sup>2</sup> and/or -NHCOR<sup>2</sup>;

R' is bromine or aryloxy which may be mono- or polysubstituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy and/or cyano;

R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl;

R<sup>2</sup> is hydrogen; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>-alkyl; aryl or hetaryl, each of which may be substituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy and/or cyano;

X, Y are both hydrogen or bonded together to form a six-membered ring in a radical of the formula Ia



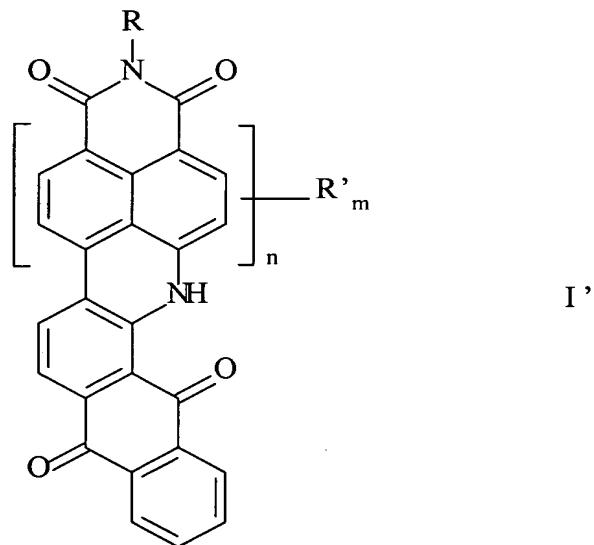
where X is the -NH- group and Y is the other free chemical bond;

n is 2, 3, 4 or additionally 1 when X and Y are a radical of the formula Ia;

n' is from 1 to 4;

m is from 0 to 6.

Claim 3 (Original): A process for preparing rylene dyes of the general formula I'



where the variables are defined as follows:

R is hydrogen;

C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>30</sub>-alkyl whose carbon chain may be interrupted by one or more -O-, -S-, -NR<sup>1</sup>-, -CO- and/or -SO<sub>2</sub>- moieties and may be mono- or polysubstituted by carboxyl, sulfo, hydroxyl, cyano, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy and/or a 5- to 7-membered heterocyclic radical which is bonded via a nitrogen atom and may contain further heteroatoms and be aromatic;

C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkyl whose carbon framework may be interrupted by one or more -O-, -S- and/or -NR<sup>1</sup>- moieties and may be mono- or polysubstituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl;

aryl or hetaryl which may each be mono- or polysubstituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy, halogen, hydroxyl, cyano, carboxyl, -CONHR<sup>2</sup>, -NHCOR<sup>2</sup> and/or aryl- or hetarylazo, each of which may be substituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy, halogen, hydroxyl, cyano or carboxyl;

R' is bromine; cyano; -NR<sup>3</sup><sub>2</sub>;

aryloxy, arylthio, hetarylloxy or hetarylthio, each of which may be mono- or polysubstituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkoxy, cyano, -CONHR<sup>2</sup> and/or -NHCOR<sup>2</sup>;

C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>-alk-1-ynyl whose carbon chain may be interrupted by one or more -O-, -S-, -NR<sup>1</sup>-, -CO- and/or -SO<sub>2</sub>- moieties and may be mono- or polysubstituted by -COOR<sup>1</sup>, -SO<sub>3</sub>R<sup>1</sup>, hydroxyl, cyano, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkyl, aryl and/or a 5- to 7-membered heterocyclic radical which is bonded via a nitrogen atom and may contain further heteroatoms and be aromatic;

R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl;

R<sup>2</sup> is hydrogen; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>-alkyl; aryl or hetaryl, each of which may be substituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy, halogen, hydroxyl or cyano;

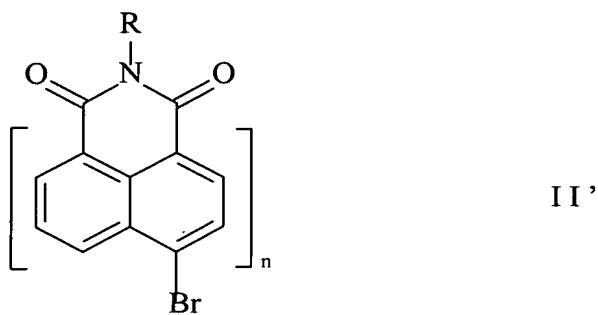
R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>-alkyl; aryl or hetaryl, each of which may be substituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy, halogen, hydroxyl and/or cyano; both R<sup>3</sup> radicals may be joined to give a 5- to 7-membered heterocyclic radical which contains the nitrogen atom and is bonded via it;

n is 2, 3 or 4;

m is from 0 to 6,

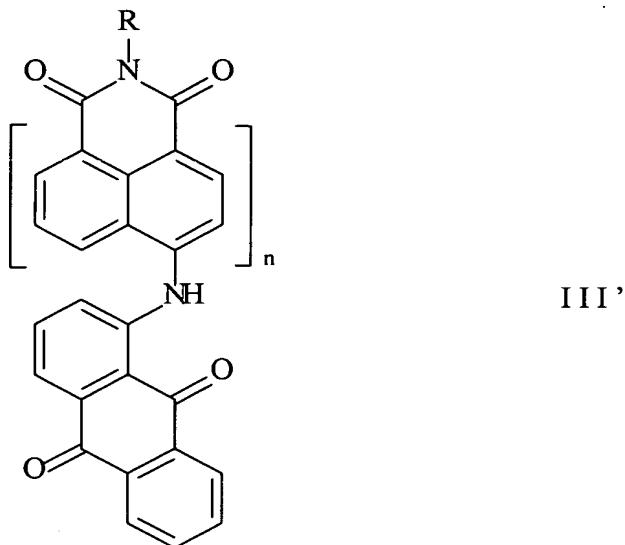
which comprises

a) reacting a rylene derivative monobrominated in the peri-position of the general formula II'



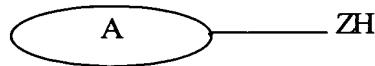
with 1-aminoanthraquinone in a cross-coupling reaction in the presence of an aprotic organic solvent, of a transition metal catalyst system and of a base,

b) cyclizing the rylenanthramine formed in step a) of the general formula III'



in the presence of a polar organic solvent and of a base to give the rylene dye of the formula I' which is unsubstituted in the rylene core and where m is 0, and

- c) if desired, converting the rylene dye I' unsubstituted in the rylene core and obtained in step b) to the rylene dye of the formula I' brominated in the rylene core where R' is bromine and m does not equal 0 by reacting with elemental bromine, and
- d) if desired, converting the rylene dye I' brominated in the rylene core and obtained in step c)
  - d1) by reacting with a compound of the general formula IV



IV

where Z is sulfur or oxygen and the ring A is an aryl or hetaryl radical, each of which may be mono- or polysubstituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkoxy, cyano, -CONHR<sup>2</sup> and/or -NHCOR<sup>2</sup>,

in the presence of an inert nitrogen-basic organic solvent and of a base to give the rylene dye of the formula I' which is substituted in the rylene core and where R' is aryloxy, arylthio, hetarylxy or hetarylthio, each of which may be mono- or polysubstituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkoxy, cyano, -CONHR<sup>2</sup> and/or -NHCOR<sup>2</sup>, and m does not equal 0,

- d2) by reacting with copper(I) cyanide in the presence of a dipolar aprotic organic solvent to give the rylene dye of the formula I' which is substituted in the rylene core and where R' is cyano and m does not equal 0,
- d3) by reacting with an alkyne of the general formula V



V

where R'' is a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>16</sub>-alkyl radical which may be interrupted by one or more -O-, -S-, -NR<sup>1</sup>-, -CO- and/or -SO<sub>2</sub>- moieties and may be mono- or polysubstituted by -COOR<sup>1</sup>, -SO<sub>3</sub>R<sup>1</sup>, hydroxyl, cyano, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkyl, aryl and/or a 5- to 7-membered heterocyclic radical which is bonded via a nitrogen atom and

may contain further heteroatoms and be aromatic,

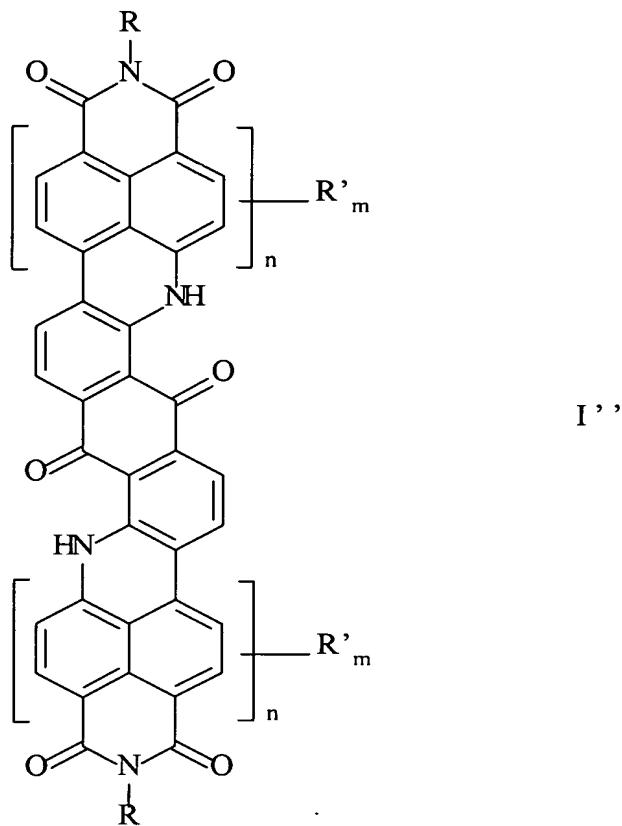
in the presence of an aprotic organic solvent, of a palladium complex as a catalyst, of a copper salt as a cocatalyst and of a base to give the rylene dye of the formula I' which is substituted in the rylene core and where R' is  $-\text{C}\equiv\text{C}-\text{R}''$  and m does not equal 0, or

d4) by reacting with ammonia or an amine of the general formula VI



in the presence of a dipolar aprotic organic solvent to give the rylene dye of the formula I' which is substituted in the rylene core and where R' is  $-\text{N}\text{R}^3_2$  and m does not equal 0.

Claim 4 (Original): A process for preparing symmetrical rylene dyes of the general formula I''



where the variables are defined as follows:

R is hydrogen;

C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>30</sub>-alkyl whose carbon chain may be interrupted by one or more -O-, -S-, -NR<sup>1</sup>-, -CO- and/or -SO<sub>2</sub>- moieties and may be mono- or polysubstituted by carboxyl, sulfo, hydroxyl, cyano, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy and/or a 5- to 7-membered heterocyclic radical which is bonded via a nitrogen atom and may contain further heteroatoms and be aromatic;

C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkyl whose carbon framework may be interrupted by one or more -O-, -S- and/or -NR<sup>1</sup>- moieties and may be mono- or polysubstituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-

alkyl;

aryl or hetaryl which may each be mono- or polysubstituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy, halogen, hydroxyl, cyano, carboxyl, -CONHR<sup>2</sup>, -NHCOR<sup>2</sup> and/or aryl- or hetarylazo, each of which may be substituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy, halogen, hydroxyl, cyano and/or carboxyl;

R' is bromine; cyano; -NR<sup>3</sup>;

aryloxy, arylthio, hetarylloxy or hetarylthio, each of which may be mono- or polysubstituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkoxy, cyano, -CONHR<sup>2</sup> and/or -NHCOR<sup>2</sup>;

C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>-alk-1-ynyl whose carbon chain may be interrupted by one or more -O-, -S-, -NR<sup>1</sup>-, -CO- and/or -SO<sub>2</sub>- moieties and may be mono- or polysubstituted by -COOR<sup>1</sup>, -SO<sub>3</sub>R<sup>1</sup>, hydroxyl, cyano, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkyl, aryl and/or a 5- to 7-membered heterocyclic radical which is bonded via a nitrogen atom and may contain further heteroatoms and be aromatic;

R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl;

R<sup>2</sup> is hydrogen; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>-alkyl; aryl or hetaryl, each of which may be substituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy, halogen, hydroxyl and/or cyano;

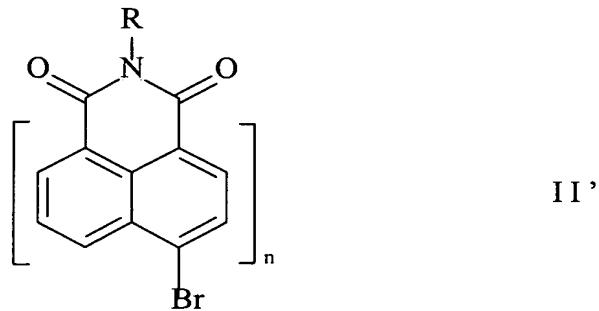
$R^3$  is hydrogen; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>-alkyl; aryl or hetaryl, each of which may be substituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy, halogen, hydroxyl and/or cyano; both  $R^3$  radicals may be joined to give a 5- to 7-membered heterocyclic radical which contains the nitrogen atom and is bonded via it;

n is 1, 2, 3 or 4;

m is from 0 to 6,

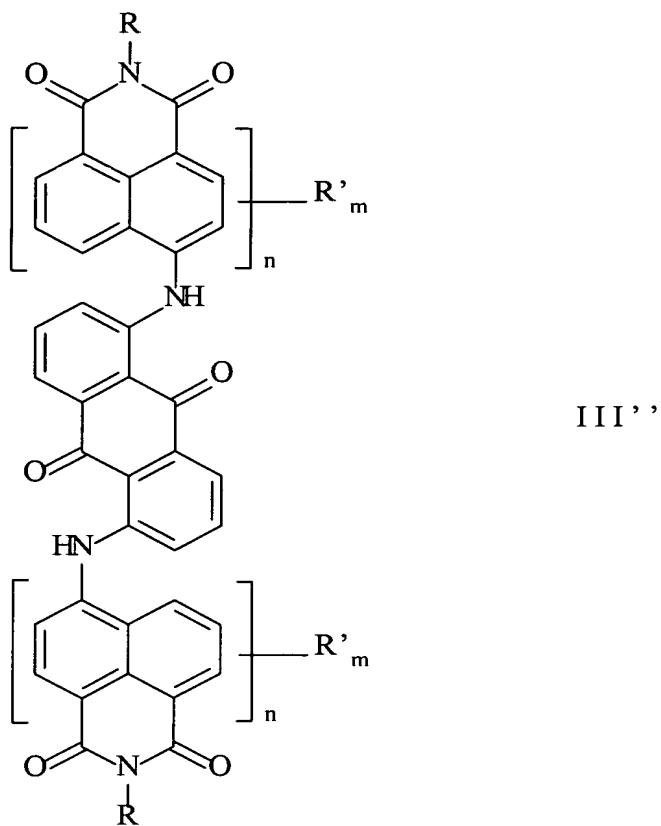
which comprises

a) reacting a rylene derivative monobrominated in the peri-position of the general formula II'



with 1,5-diaminoanthraquinone in a double cross-coupling reaction in the presence of an aprotic organic solvent, of a transition metal catalyst system and of a base,

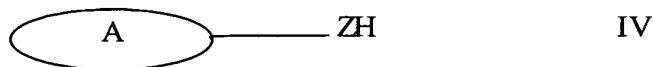
b) cyclizing the rylenanthramine formed in step a) of the general formula III''



in the presence of a polar organic solvent and of a base to give the rylene dye of the formula  $\text{I''}$  where  $m$  is 0, and

- c) if desired, converting the rylene dye  $\text{I''}$  unsubstituted in the rylene core and obtained in step b) to the rylene dye of the formula  $\text{I''}$  brominated in the rylene core where  $\text{R}'$  is bromine and  $m$  is equal to 0 by reacting with elemental bromine, and
- d) if desired, converting the rylene dye  $\text{I''}$  brominated in the rylene core and obtained in step c)

d1) by reacting with a compound of the general formula IV



where Z is sulfur or oxygen and the ring A is an aryl or hetaryl radical, each of which may be mono- or polysubstituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkoxy, cyano, -CONHR<sup>2</sup> and/or -NHCOR<sup>2</sup>,

in the presence of an inert nitrogen-basic organic solvent and of a base to give the rylene dye of the formula I'' which is substituted in the rylene core and where R' is aryloxy, arylthio, hetaryloxy or hetarylthio, each of which may be mono- or polysubstituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkoxy, cyano, -CONHR<sup>2</sup> and/or -NHCOR<sup>2</sup>, and m does not equal 0,

d2) by reacting with copper(I) cyanide in the presence of a dipolar aprotic organic solvent to give the rylene dye of the formula I'' which is substituted in the rylene core and where R' is cyano and m does not equal 0,

d3) by reacting with an alkyne of the general formula V



where R'' is a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>16</sub>-alkyl radical which may be interrupted by one or more -O-, -S-, -NR<sup>1</sup>-, -CO- and/or -SO<sub>2</sub>- moieties and may be mono- or polysubstituted by -

COOR<sup>1</sup>, -SO<sub>3</sub>R<sup>1</sup>, hydroxyl, cyano, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkyl, aryl and/or a 5- to 7-membered heterocyclic radical which is bonded via a nitrogen atom and may contain further heteroatoms and be aromatic,

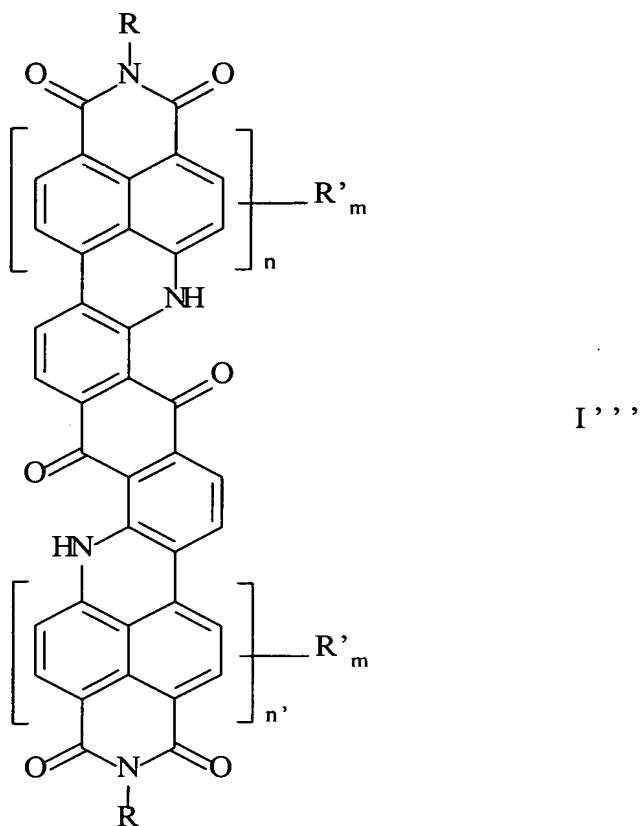
in the presence of an aprotic organic solvent, of a palladium complex as a catalyst, of a copper salt as a cocatalyst and of a base to give the rylene dye of the formula I'' which is substituted in the rylene core and where R' is —C≡C—R'' and m does not equal 0, or

d4) by reacting with ammonia or an amine of the general formula VI



in the presence of a dipolar aprotic organic solvent to give the rylene dye of the formula I'' which is substituted in the rylene core and where R' is -NR<sup>3</sup><sub>2</sub> and m does not equal 0.

Claim 5 (Original): A process for preparing nonsymmetrical rylene dyes of the general formula I'''



where the variables are defined as follows:

R is hydrogen;

$C_1-C_{30}$ -alkyl whose carbon chain may be interrupted by one or more -O-, -S-, -NR<sup>1</sup>-, -CO- and/or -SO<sub>2</sub>- moieties and may be mono- or polysubstituted by carboxyl, sulfo, hydroxyl, cyano,  $C_1-C_6$ -alkoxy and/or a 5- to 7-membered heterocyclic radical which is bonded via a nitrogen atom and may contain further heteroatoms and be aromatic;

C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkyl whose carbon framework may be interrupted by one or more -O-, -S- and/or -NR<sup>1</sup>- moieties and may be mono- or polysubstituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl;

aryl or hetaryl which may each be mono- or polysubstituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy, halogen, hydroxyl, cyano, carboxyl, -CONHR<sup>2</sup>, -NHCOR<sup>2</sup> and/or aryl- or hetarylazo, each of which may be substituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy, halogen, hydroxyl, cyano and/or carboxyl;

R' is bromine; cyano; -NR<sup>3</sup><sub>2</sub>;

aryloxy, arylthio, hetaryloxy or hetarylthio, each of which may be mono- or polysubstituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkoxy, cyano, -CONHR<sup>2</sup> and/or -NHCOR<sup>2</sup>;

C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>-alk-1-ynyl whose carbon chain may be interrupted by one or more -O-, -S-, -NR<sup>1</sup>-, -CO- and/or -SO<sub>2</sub>- moieties and may be mono- or polysubstituted by -COOR<sup>1</sup>, -SO<sub>3</sub>R<sup>1</sup>, hydroxyl, cyano, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkyl, aryl and/or a 5- to 7-membered heterocyclic radical which is bonded via a nitrogen atom and may contain further heteroatoms and be aromatic;

R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl;

$R^2$  is hydrogen;  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ -alkyl; aryl or hetaryl, each of which may be substituted by  $C_1$ - $C_8$ -alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkoxy, halogen, hydroxyl and/or cyano;

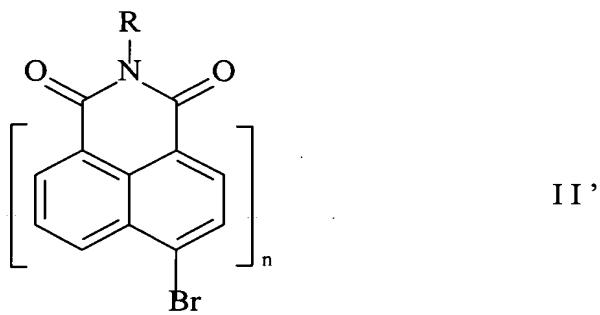
$R^3$  is hydrogen;  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ -alkyl; aryl or hetaryl, each of which may be substituted by  $C_1$ - $C_8$ -alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkoxy, halogen, hydroxyl and/or cyano; both  $R^3$  radicals may be joined to give a 5- to 7-membered heterocyclic radical which contains the nitrogen atom and is bonded via it;

$n, n'$  are each 1, 2, 3 or 4, and  $n \neq n'$ ;

$m$  is from 0 to 6,

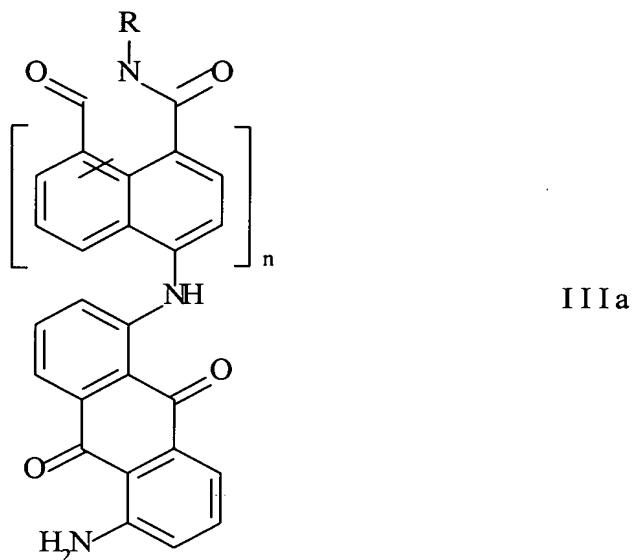
which comprises

a1) initially reacting a rylene derivative monobrominated in the peri-position of the general formula II'

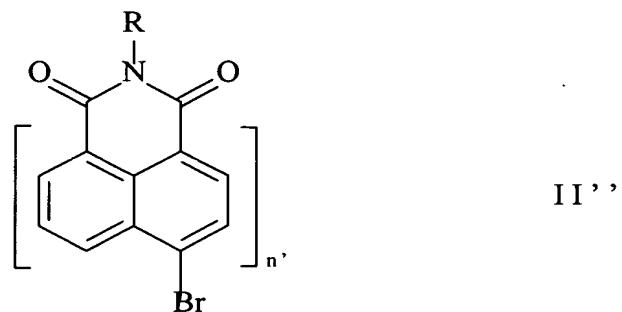


with excess 1,5-diaminoanthraquinone in a first cross-coupling reaction in the presence of an aprotic organic solvent, of a transition metal catalyst system and of a base,

a2) reacting the amin orylenanthramine obtained in step a) of the general formula IIIa

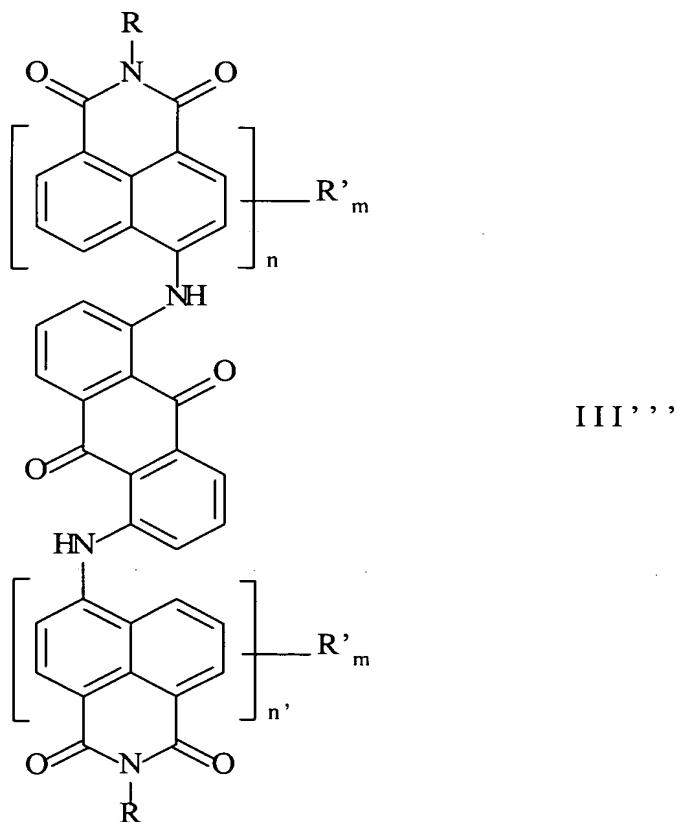


with a rylene derivative monobrominated in the peri-position of the general formula II''



in the presence of an aprotic organic solvent, of a transition metal catalyst and of a base in a second cross-coupling reaction,

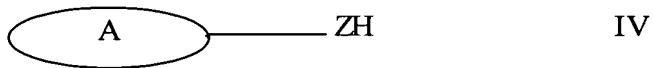
b) cyclizing the rylenanthramine formed in step a) of the general formula III'''



in the presence of a polar organic solvent and of a base to give the rylene dye of the formula  $I'''$  which is unsubstituted in the rylene core and where  $m$  is 0, and

- c) if desired, converting the rylene dye  $I'''$  unsubstituted in the rylene core and obtained in step b) to the rylene dye of the formula  $I'''$  brominated in the rylene core where  $R'$  is bromine and  $m$  does not equal 0 by reacting with elemental bromine, and
- d) if desired, converting the rylene dye  $I'''$  brominated in the rylene core and obtained in step c)

d1) by reacting with a compound of the general formula IV



where  $Z$  is sulfur or oxygen and the ring  $A$  is an aryl or hetaryl radical, each of which may be mono- or polysubstituted by  $C_1$ - $C_{12}$ -alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_{12}$ -alkoxy, cyano, - $CONHR^2$  and/or - $NHCOR^2$ ,

in the presence of an inert nitrogen-basic organic solvent and of a base to give the rylene dye of the formula  $I'''$  which is substituted in the rylene core and where  $R'$  is aryloxy, arylthio, hetaryloxy or hetarylthio, each of which may be mono- or polysubstituted by  $C_1$ - $C_{12}$ -alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_{12}$ -alkoxy, cyano, - $CONHR^2$  and/or -

NHCOR<sup>2</sup>, and m does not equal 0,

d2) by reacting with copper(I) cyanide in the presence of a dipolar aprotic organic solvent to give the rylene dye of the formula I''' which is substituted in the rylene core and where R' is cyano and m does not equal 0,

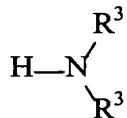
d3) by reacting with an alkyne of the general formula V



where R''' is a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>16</sub>-alkyl radical which may be interrupted by one or more -O-, -S-, -NR<sup>1</sup>-, -CO- and/or -SO<sub>2</sub>- moieties and may be mono- or polysubstituted by -COOR<sup>1</sup>, -SO<sub>3</sub>R<sup>1</sup>, hydroxyl, cyano, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkyl, aryl and/or a 5- to 7-membered heterocyclic radical which is bonded via a nitrogen atom and may contain further heteroatoms and be aromatic,

in the presence of an aprotic organic solvent, of a palladium complex as a catalyst, of a copper salt as a cocatalyst and of a base to give the rylene dye of the formula I''' which is substituted in the rylene core and where R' is —C≡C—R" and m does not equal 0, or

d4) by reacting with ammonia or an amine of the general formula VI



VI

in the presence of a dipolar aprotic organic solvent to give the rylene dye of the formula I''' which is substituted in the rylene core and where R' is -NR<sup>3</sup><sub>2</sub> and m does not equal 0.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): ~~The use of rylene dyes of the general formula I as claimed in claim 1 or 2~~ A method for coloring high molecular weight organic and inorganic materials comprising utilizing the rylene dye as claimed in claim 1.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): ~~The use as claimed in claim 6, wherein~~ The method as claimed in claim 6 wherein said high molecular weight organic and inorganic materials are plastics, paints, printing inks and oxidic layer systems ~~are colored~~.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): ~~The use of rylene dyes of the general formula I as claimed in claim 1 or 2 as dispersants~~, A dispersant, a pigment additives additive for organic pigments and intermediates an intermediate for the preparation of pigment additives comprising the rylene dye as claimed in claim 1.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): ~~The use of rylene dyes of the general formula I as claimed in claim 1 or 2 for~~ A method for producing an aqueous polymer dispersions dispersion which are is colored or absorb absorbs in the near infrared region of the

electromagnetic spectrum comprising adding the rylene dye as claimed in claim 1 to the aqueous polymer dispersion.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): ~~The use of rylene dyes of the general formula I as claimed in claim 1 or 2 as photoconductors~~ A photoconductor in electrophotography comprising the rylene dye as claimed in claim 1.

Claim 11 (New): A plastic, a paint, a printing ink, and an oxidic layer system comprising the rylene dye as claimed in claim 1.

Claim 12 (New): An aqueous polymer dispersion comprising the rylene dye as claimed in claim 1.